

Gobble Squabble, Nov. 19



Above: Monumental Impact hosted its Second Annual Monumental Impact for Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship (MITEE) Gobble Squabble on Nov. 19 at Grace Best in Monument. Members of D38's Bearbotics team and other robotics teams took part in scrimmages. The event also featured demonstrations of various robot programs. In the photo, two of Bearbotics' For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Tech Challenge (FTC) teams look for scores with their robot while referees look for penalties. *Photo by Mike Hinkle*

Alpaca Extravaganza, Nov. 26-27



Above: The 17th Annual Holiday Alpaca Extravaganza was held Nov. 26-27 at the Black Forest Community Center. The center was stocked with alpaca-themed items, including clothing, socks, mittens, toys, blankets, hats, yarns, and crafty items, all made from alpaca wool. There were even alpacas outside for kids to pet. For more information on where you can see alpacas, email Pete Ziek (pictured above) pjziek@aol.com or Barbara Ziek bziek@aol.com of the Wild Hair Alpacas, members of Alpaca Owners Association, to make an appointment. *Photo by Marlene Brown.*

Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26



Above: Many locals and visitors enjoyed Small Business Saturday on Nov. 26 in downtown Monument. Shoppers said they like "shopping local," and this event is a good reminder to support local businesses of all types, including our local art galleries, home décor, and gift shops. Here, locals and their out-of-town guests peruse The Roost for their holiday purchases. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Monument Window Art, Nov. 20



Above and right: Local artist Kris Gideon helped make historic downtown Monument festive for the holidays. Gideon painted colorful holiday scenes on windows of stores on Second Street for several days including Nov. 20. The finished product is shown at right. This is her third year of painting window scenes in town. Gideon teaches beginning art classes at Monument Library. You can get more information on her website krisgideon.com. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*



Mt. Herman road closure



Above: This is a heads-up for those who use Mount Herman Road (MHR) to access FS 716 trailhead. An experienced and knowledgeable hiker, Randy Phillips, informed the local hiking community that the Pikes Peak Ranger District decided in September to seasonally close MHR. If this decision is approved at a higher level, the MHR gate will be closed at the corner of MHR and Red Rocks Drive for winters. For those who hike up by way of the Windsock trail or others, this will not be a problem. You won't, however, be able to drive up to FS 716 trailhead. *Photo by Steve Pate*